

March 24, 1975

SENATOR SIMPSON: Well they might do this occasionally. I think in all areas where we allow locals to take over supervision there is a check occasionally to see if they are doing the enforcement properly.

SENATOR DICKINSON: I find it difficult to accept that Mr. Benson would be here asking for . . . this is contrary to the general concept of wanting someone else to come over and oversee what they're already doing. I find it difficult to understand Mr. Benson's representing the city of Omaha asking for the State Health Department to come in and check up on what they're doing. In other areas they tried to constantly get the State Health Department out of their hair in regard to dairy inspection, restaurant inspection, etc. I'm conscientiously trying to understand their position here. I don't want to press it any further Senator Simpson. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Cope.

SENATOR COPE: Question of Senator Simpson. Very possibly I missed the answer to this. I was on the phone talking to our local city manager about this. Do I understand that the licensing will be done by the state for the mobile homes, or still on a local level?

SENATOR SIMPSON: This would be a licensing by the state.

SENATOR COPE: Strictly state licensing?

SENATOR SIMPSON: They would be issued by the Department of Health.

SENATOR COPE: Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Bereuter.

SENATOR BEREUTER: Mr. President, colleagues, I have some substantial reservations about this bill. Unfortunately, I'd like to speak in favor of it. Today I see that we have a real economic crunch in terms of people being able to afford housing, so they are going to mobile homes and various other types of prebuilt homes to meet their housing problems. When I look at Section 4 I see that the Department of Health is to adopt rules and regulations which go substantially beyond regulation of sanitation or concern with sanitation. They go into design and land use. What I see possible here is that we have a set of regulations almost inevitably, I think, which will require certain types of capital improvements be placed in mobile home parks. A mobile home park, according to this law, is any area that has two or more lots for lease for the use of mobile homes. So we may very well find that all mobile home lots built in the future have hard surfaced streets, which most of you up here would agree would be desirable. However, when we begin to enunciate in rules and regulations substantially higher standards of construction, design, and utilities over and above those required by normal health and safety standards we are substantially increasing the cost of housing. So what once was a reasonably low cost means of housing people may become less than economical. Now if a particular political subdivision, a municipality or county, wants high